

Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

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No. 9

GRACE SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BOOMING

BULLETIN

Just as we are going to press we learn that Grace Sunday School has led the city for increased attendance during October by 76.8 per cent. We got out of the campaign just what we put into it.

RALLY DAY SUCCESS

The special fall Rally Day service for the Sunday School and church was planned for the first Sunday in October. It was a combined Sunday School and church service, beginning at 10:00 o'clock, and was a pronounced success, both as to attendance (235) and in enthusiasm. Features of the service were the presence of Red Fox and Black Hawk, the two Blackfoot Indians. Red Fox spoke for us and gave some interesting facts concerning his life and the "Red Men." His costume was of great interest, especially to the children. Another enjoyable feature was the presence of Mr. Robt. Bitner, formerly teacher of the David's Companions Class, and now a corporal in the Hospital Corps at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Attorney David E. Hogg, a member of the First Baptist church, gave an address and the sermon by Rev. Schaaf was an inspiration to all.

A glance at the following table will show you what we are doing in point of attendance as compared with last year in October:

| | 1916 | 1917 | Gain |
|------------------|------|------|------|
| 1st Sunday | 123 | 235 | 112 |
| 2nd Sunday | 132 | 201 | 69 |
| 3rd Sunday | 165 | 229 | 64 |
| 4th Sunday | 136 | 218 | 82 |

On October 7th, each of our classes revised their roll of members and we found that on that date we had an active enrollment of 249. We also found that we had on that day two classes with every member present and four with only one absent. This shows how important it is for everyone to be present, for if just **the one** in each of these four classes had been there, we would have had six 100 per cent classes, and what a record that would have been!

Now that the October Go-to-Sunday School Campaign is passed, we hope to have with us those who came out especially for the campaign but have not been attending Sunday School regularly. We want you with us—in fact, we must have you.

WILL SEW FOR HOPE HOSPITAL

At a meeting called by the Woman's Committee of Hope Hospital, plans were made to have the women of the various churches affiliated with the hospital form themselves into a sewing committee to do the mending and making of some of the new articles needed by the hospital. The Heiderberg Bible Class has taken up this work for our church and was represented at the meeting by Mrs. Carl Kessler and Mrs. W. F. Close.

The city has been divided into sections, geographically, and on Tuesday of each week one section will meet for sewing. Grace Church is in the second division, consisting of the First Presbyterian, First Methodist, Crescent Ave. Evangelical, B'Nai Jacob, Salem and Grace Reformed churches. Each section will thus meet once a month, and aside from the good work done, it is hoped to bring the churches closer together in fellowship.

CHRISTMAS SALE

The annual Christmas sale and bazaar will be held this year as usual. The committee in charge of the fancy work booth has been busy sending out post cards to all the members of the church soliciting articles to make an attractive display. They hope to meet a hearty, cheerful and liberal response, and would ask that all those who will help in this work report at once to one of the committee. It is felt that under the existing national conditions the articles donated should, insofar as possible, be of a practical nature, as such articles now meet with a more ready sale.

DELIGHTFUL HALLOWE'EN PARTY

Miss Ruth More and Miss Vera Sessler united in entertaining their Sunday School classes at a delightful Halloween party in the church parlors Friday evening, October 26th. The rooms were decorated in bitter-sweet, oak leaves, jack-o'-lanterns, black cats, witches, and ghosts partially hidden by corn stalks, peeked at them from all corners. The light was furnished entirely by candles, which were scattered about the room. The girls were all masked so effectively that great fun was had in guessing "who was who." After the masks were removed the children were treated to apples and then sat on the floor in a circle and listened to ghost stories while they ate pop corn and apples. The little folks played games until they were invited into the dining room, where a great surprise met their eyes. The color scheme of the room was yellow and black, and corn stalks and ghosts were in evidence; while stretched before them was a long table set for the twenty-seven kiddies with a large pumpkin face in the center and laden with sandwiches, doughnuts, little pumpkins, apples and other good things. Candles in holders made of apples were scattered about the room. The places were marked by tiny yellow

place cards decorated with pumpkins and black cats. Each little girl received as favors a small witch doll with a high, pointed hat and a tiny black pirate boat with decorations of skull and cross bones, filled with candy corn and topped with a taper that burned and sputtered during the lunch. All the children said they had had the time of their lives and are eagerly waiting for the time the two classes can be together again for another party. The teachers take this opportunity of thanking Mr. H. E. Metzner and Rev. N. H. Schaaf for taking the little folks to their homes in their machines.

THE MEN'S CLASS ENTERTAINS

Tuesday evening, October 16th, the members of the Senior Men's Bible Class pleasantly entertained the members of the church and Sunday School in the Sunday School room. It was an affair planned to be in payment of the debt owing to the ladies of the Zwingli Bible Class, because of losing a recent contest, but all the church was invited. The men were assisted in the entertainment by the Misses Ruth Gumper and Vera Sessler, and Rev. Mr. Schaaf and Mr. Ed. Close gave short talks. Everybody was agreed that Mr. Close shines at his best as Chef, where, being ably assisted by the wives of the social committee of the Class, he served a luncheon consisting of beef loaf, sandwiches and coffee, ice cream and cake. The men wish in this manner to acknowledge their indebtedness to the Mesdames Perry Monn, J. Clippinger, Paff and Edw. Close for assistance in preparing the luncheon. The large response to the invitation of the men by the members of the church fully repays the class for the effort made.

The little girls of the Blue Bird Class held their first business meeting at the church this last month. There was a large attendance at this meeting and they learned the Apostles' Creed from memory.

THE LADIES' WORK

LADIES, TAKE NOTICE

The following committees have been appointed for the annual supper to be given in December:

Kitchen: Mesdames Boerger, Siebold, Riley and Weickart.

Coffee: Mesdames Hessert and Leikauf.

Bread: Mrs. Schneider.

Cake and Sauce: Mesdames Ruch and H. Kessler.

Table: Chairmen, Mesdames W. Close and H. Dinger. Assistants: Mesdames Trautman, Benton, Ernest Close, Koepf, Pfeiffer, Knight, Brewer, Mullen, Clippinger, K. Kessler, and Miss Emma Benot.

In charge of collection: Mrs. H. J. Straub.

Meeting of the Woman's Missionary society, Thursday afternoon, November 15, with Mrs. J. W. Brewer, 1302 Spy Run avenue. Mrs. Adams, leader. All women of the church are invited to be present.

Sunday, November 25th, will be Thank Offering Day for Grace Church. In the evening the Woman's Missionary Society will hold their Thank offering service. By action taken at meeting of the General Synodical Missionary Society at Akron, Ohio, in May, the time for the ingathering of the Thank offering box was changed from March to November, this being the Thanksgiving season, it was deemed the most appropriate time to hold the Thank Offering Service.

We cordially invite every member of the church and their friends to be present.

The "Service of Motives," as arranged by Mrs. Evermeyer, editor of woman's department in Outlook of Missions, will be used and portrayed by eight young women members of Mary B. Hoy Auxiliary, appearing in costumes of the rainbow colors. The

speaking parts are very beautiful and we know everyone attending will be amply repaid for their presence.

Social afternoon Thursday, November 8th, at the home of Mrs. Ray Deahl, on Delaware avenue. Assisting hostesses will be Mesdames Copenhaver, Gooley, Fritz, John Smith, Schlaudroff, Keck, Waldo, Weikert, Merrilat, Kline and Guebard. Bring your Red Cross knitting.

On December 5th the coffee urn contract, entered by G. E. Bursley & Co., with the Doremus Guild, will expire, and up to date we lack 848 coupons. We hope all members and friends who have enjoyed the many excellent cups of coffee made in this urn will come to our rescue and help us secure the required number of coupons within the time limit.

The month of December always brings to mind our Annual Christmas Bazaar. On Thursday evening, the 6th, the regular monthly supper will be served. On Friday evening, the 7th, Penny Supper will be the attraction. We expect the patronage of every one of you. Many practical articles will be for sale, so do no Xmas shopping until you see our display.

Reserve these dates. Come, eat your supper with us, and spend a pleasant evening with the ladies of Grace Church.

On the afternoon of Friday, December 7th, at 2:30, the Doremus Guild will hold their annual meeting. Officers for the ensuing year will be elected and other important business transacted.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Null and Miss Anna Doermer have had as their guests Mesdames Harlor and Bevington, of Columbus, Ohio.

Mrs. Sarah Knight, who has been ill, is able to be at the church services again. We are glad for her speedy recovery.

Mrs. John Bitner, of Lewis street, is improving rapidly. We hope to see her at the church services in the near future.

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

Published monthly by the Young Men's Agenda Class.

George M. Shiffer.....Editor-in-Chief
E. W. Baumgartner.....Business Manager
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SPECIAL

Will you aid the Pastor and yourself by seeing that in cases of sickness where pastoral services are required, information is sent **direct** from the room? That's the way you call the physician. It's the only way in which you can hold the Pastor responsible for attention in the moment of great need. Use post card or phone. **882 Black.**

LET US GIVE THANKS

It is nearing Thanksgiving Day. Well is it that once a year the great American people pause and consider whence it is they derive their greatness. As a people and as individuals we have much to be thankful for. Though we are forced into war, we can still give thanks that we have boundless resources with which to prosecute it. Though enduring hardships, we can rejoice in strength that lets us endure them. Though many things are not as they should be, the great God is over all and in all, and in his all-wise providence will cause the affairs of all his children to end well. Could we only enlarge our faith as it should be enlarged, we would cease to worry and find in our troubles the source of a happiness based on divine communion. Let us, therefore, give thanks this year even more than in years gone by, resting calm in the promise, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

The Pastor will speak this afternoon (Nov. 4) at the dedication of the new building at the Orphans' Home. All members and friends of Grace Church are invited.

Grace Church was well represented at the union Reformation service in St. John's church last Sunday evening.

AGENDA ACTIVITIES

On the evening of October 5th the Agenda Class gave a surprise party on Robert Bitner, who had returned home on a few days' furlough. The evening was spent in playing games, among them a "vegetable race," after which a fine lunch was served and, last but not least, was the ride home when ten people piled into Oscar Deahl's Ford truck and had a regular joy-ride. Brother "Bob" is looking fine and he seems to enjoy army life very much. He had many interesting things to tell us, and we regret very much that he had to leave so soon.

The October business meeting was held at the home of Louis Linninger's sister, Mrs. Peter Hunkler, on Bayer avenue. There was a good crowd present and after a fine lunch there was a whole lot (?) of real estate bought and sold. Rev. Schaaf anchored his "flivver" on a corner that night and forgot which one, but Ray Deahl, who lives in that neighborhood, volunteered to find it, but we haven't heard yet on which corner it was found.

In regard to the Visitor, the Agenda Class would like to call your attention to the fact that it takes money to publish this paper. To quote the Bingville Bugle, you can't run a newspaper on "hot air and cold potatoes." Neither can we run the Visitor on good wishes. Every copy of the paper costs us five cents, and all we ask is twenty-five cents for a year of twelve issues, so you get sixty cents worth for twenty-five cents. Our ads are not enough to run the paper on, so we need your support. The Agenda Class is doing the work without any thought of pay for it. No one is making a cent out of it, but it will not do to run into debt either. We also feel that we should have more support in the way of news. Each class should appoint a reporter to see that the news and doings of the class get to Mr. Shiffer by the last Sunday in the month, and if you do your bit we will see that you get a live Visitor every month.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

W. F. Close, Supt.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

Now is the time to "do your bit" in the Sunday School. The enthusiasm is fine.

While speaking of the Sunday School, do you know of a school anywhere that has more efficient teachers?

Led the city for two consecutive Sundays! That's the record of our Sunday School in the recent October campaign.

Have you noticed the number of classes of the Sunday School which have reported 100 per cent attendance recently?

Family Day was something more than a name in Grace Sunday School. Forty-two entire families were present and we are very proud of our record.

It is most encouraging to see how many parents are bringing the cradle roll children to Sunday School. We want the whole family from babies up.

Sunday morning, October 21st, we had two of our cradle roll children at the Sunday School service. We hope the mothers will bring these children whenever possible.

Miss Ruth Gumpfer will have charge of the children in preparation for the Christmas celebration. All parents are asked to co-operate by sending the children to rehearsals.

Who says you cannot get the 'teen age boys to go to Sunday School? Come and see the Excelsior Class and you will change your mind. Mr. Ruhl is the teacher in this wide-awake class.

We note the return to the city of Mr. L. W. Hills. It was through the courtesy of the Hills store that favors were secured for the children of the Orphan's Home on the occasion of their visit to Grace church.

We are very much pleased to note the number of new scholars who have been enrolled during the past month. We hope to continue this good work and wish to welcome these new members and trust they will find a pleasure in coming each Sunday.

"David's Companions," the class of boys taught by Darrell Copenhaver, has a record that we believe it will be hard for any class to beat. They show 100 per cent present for every Sunday in October. Every boy at Sunday School for four consecutive Sundays! Three cheers for the boys!

Beginning with the first Sunday in October we inaugurated the cross and crown system of rewards. Our scholars are very much interested and we hope that by January 1st many will receive the reward pin for having attended thirteen consecutive Sundays. Let us not fail to be in Sunday School every Sunday.

HEIDELBERG HAPPENINGS

The Heidelberg Class are representing Grace Church in the work of doing mending for Hope Hospital.

The next business meeting of the Heidelberg Class has been postponed to the third Friday in November and will be held at the home of Mrs. Dissler, 520 Prospect avenue. We want every member present at this meeting, when we shall elect officers for the coming year.

Just one year ago the Heidelberg Class was organized. We have passed through a very successful year—not only financially but in keeping up the attendance and enthusiasm of our members. We want all the young married ladies to come and join us and find out for themselves what a lively bunch we are. In honor of our anniversary, Mrs. F. More will entertain the class on Friday afternoon, November 9th. We are anticipating a fine time.

PROGREDA ECHOES

Miss Loretta Gooley spent Sunday, October 21st, at Decatur, Indiana.

We are already planning for our benevolent work during the Christmas season.

Mrs. Clarence Aiken visited her brother at Valparaiso, Ind., on Sunday, October 28th.

Miss Helen Trisch is attending a meeting of the State Teachers' Association at Indianapolis.

Miss Hazel Gooley spent Sunday recently at Columbia City and also visited with friends at Huntington.

The time and place of the November meeting, at which time officers for the coming year will be elected, will be announced later.

The Progreda Girls should all study and plan that they may have many new things to bring to our class meetings, especially methods of doing more effective work. Let every girl resolve that she will do her bit.

The girls held their October meeting at the home of their teacher, Mrs. Edw. Close. The same evening they all went to the church, where they arrived in time to enjoy the good eats of the social affair being given by the Men's Bible Class.

Mary B. Hoy Missionary Circle met at the home of Mrs. Leikauf Monday evening, October 1st and 15th. Each evening was devoted to the study of China. Everyone should attend these meetings as they are very interesting and instructive.

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C. E. TOPICS FOR NOVEMBER

Nov. 4th—Perseverance. Eph. 6:10-20. (Consecration meeting.) Helen Trish.

Nov. 11th—Seeking Worth-While Things. Prov. 8: 10-21. Matt. 6:33. Mr. Baumgartner.

Nov. 18th—Our Denominational Foreign Mission Bands; Their History and Achievements. Isa. 55: 1-13. Anna Doermer.

Nov. 25th—For What Am I Grateful? (Thanksgiving Topic.) Ps. 34: 1-22. Lulu Bitner.

The Christian Endeavor Society gave a Hallowe'en party at the Bitner home on East Lewis street Friday evening, October 26th. The features of the evening were music and games. A fine luncheon was served and everyone reported a lovely time.

THE JUNIOR AT WORK

The Junior Christian Endeavorers have again started work, and the prospects for a successful season are exceptionally bright. It is hoped that the parents of the boys and girls will see that they attend the meetings which are held every Sunday at 2:45 o'clock. The Junior Endeavor Society is a good training school for our boys and girls, preparing them for active church work in later life.

Miss Ruth Gumpfer will play the leading feminine role in "The Army and Navy."

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